

CHAPTER 4

COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 Department of Commerce.

4.1.1 National Weather Service (NWS). All communication systems of the NWS are used in support of the data collection and warning program given in the plan (see Table 4.1). These communication systems are described in the publication, *Operations of the National Weather Service*.

4.1.2 Aircraft Operations Center (AOC). The AOC may use the communications facilities of the Air Force described in Paragraphs 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.

4.2 Department of Defense (DOD).

4.2.1 U.S. Air Force. The Air Force's Automated Weather Distribution System (AWDS) will be used to collect and disseminate information on winter storms received from the National Weather Service. The AF's Automated Weather Network (AWN) will be used for the exchange of data between NOAA and the Air Force.

4.2.2 Weather Reconnaissance. Weather reconnaissance observations will be transmitted via satellite down link, checked for accuracy, and then entered into the AWN. When the aircraft-to-satellite data link is inoperative, observations will be transmitted using high frequency single sideband radio to CARCAH. A summary of reconnaissance communications capabilities by organization is listed in Table 4.1.

4.2.3 U.S. Navy. In the Atlantic, the primary means of dissemination for gale, storm, high seas warnings, other winter storm advisories, and special observations is via the Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Center's unclassified (<https://WWW.NLMOC.NAVY.MIL>) and classified homepages. Data for the Pacific basin is posted on the Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Center's homepage at <https://WWW.NPMOC-SD.NAVY.MIL>. Both graphic and alphanumeric warnings are posted. *Note: As of 1 April 2004, access to the unclassified sites will only be granted to those possessing a valid DOD class 3 PKI certificate.* In addition, the Automated Digital Network (AUTODIN) is also used to distribute alphanumeric data, and gale, storm, and high seas graphics products are posted on the Joint Maritime Command Information System. The Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center/National Centers for Environmental Prediction Data Link (FNDL) will be used for exchange of data between NWS and the Navy.

4.3 U.S. Coast Guard. The Coast Guard operates activities that routinely collect and/or report meteorological data. Those units that collect and transmit (or report) data for this program are Coast Guard Communications facilities at Boston, MA; Chesapeake, VA; Miami, FL; New Orleans, LA; Kodiak, AK; Honolulu, HI; and San Francisco, CA. These facilities collect Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue (AMVER) messages from merchant vessels and METEO messages from merchant and Coast Guard vessels on a routine basis. The METEO data are then passed directly to the NCEP on the Coast Guard Data Network (CGDN).

Table 4-1. Reconnaissance organization communications capabilities.

STATION	ADDRESS	TELETYPE	TELEPHONE
Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM)	Suite 1500 8455 Colesville Rd. Silver Spring, MD 20910		DSN 851-1460 301-427-2002
CARCAH	National Hurricane Center 11691 SW 17th Street Miami, FL 33165-2149	A B	DSN 434-3420 305-229-4474
National Hurricane Center	11691 SW 17th Street Miami, FL 33165-2149	A B	305-229-4470
Alternate National Hurricane Center	NCEP/HPC Camp Springs, MD	A B	301-763-8201
Central Pacific Hurricane Center	P.O. Box 29879 Honolulu, HI	B	808-973-5284
Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Center	NAVLANTMETOCCEN Norfolk, VA	A	DSN 564-7750/3770 757-444-7750/3770
Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Center	NAVPACMETOCCEN Pearl Harbor, HI	A	DSN 471-0004 808-471-0004
Aircraft Operations Center	AOC Tampa, FL		813-828-3310
Air Force Weather Agency	AFWA Offutt AFB, NE	A	DSN 271-2586 402-294-2586
FACSFAC VACAPES OAC	FACSFAC VACAPES, Oceana, VA		DSN 433-1233 757-433-1233
53 WRS	53 WRS 817 H Street - Suite 201 Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2453	A	DSN 597-5518/2409 601-377-5518/2409

A - AWDS

B - AWIPS